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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**EVANSVILLE DRUG KINGPINS SENTENCED TO  
THIRTY YEARS**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that BRIAN S. DAVIS, 32, Evansville, Indiana, and JEROME L. DAVIS, 37, Memphis, Tennessee, were each sentenced to 360 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Richard L. Young following their guilty pleas to operating a continuing criminal enterprise, conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine, and possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute. This case was the result of a year long investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Evansville Police Department, Gibson County Sheriff's Department, Vincennes Police Department, and Daviess County Sheriff's Department that resulted in the arrest and conviction of fourteen other individuals.

-More-

BRIAN DAVIS AND JEROME DAVIS-2

The investigation largely involved wire surveillance conducted over a cellular telephone used by BRIAN DAVIS. BRIAN DAVIS and JEROME DAVIS were the local managers for a methamphetamine distribution organization that operated in southwestern Indiana from mid-1999 through November 28, 2001. The organization's kingpin, Wilfredo Barrios, was convicted by a jury in Evansville on March 12, 2003 for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise. During the wire surveillance, DEA seized forty pounds of methamphetamine, with a street value of over \$1.8 million. Trial testimony established that the organization distributed approximately 1,660 pounds of methamphetamine, with a street value of over \$73 million, during its two years of operation. The testimony established that before September 11, 2001, drug couriers transported the methamphetamine from California to Indianapolis, Indiana and Nashville, Tennessee by commercial airlines. Drug runners working for BRIAN DAVIS and JEROME DAVIS took possession of the methamphetamine from hotels near the Indianapolis and Nashville airports and transported the methamphetamine to BRIAN DAVIS and JEROME DAVIS. BRIAN DAVIS and JEROME DAVIS then distributed the methamphetamine to their customers. The customers of BRIAN DAVIS and JEROME DAVIS included Karel Thomas, Jason York, Mark Lane, and Chad Carrico. The heightened airport security measures following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks caused Barrios and the DAVISES to stop using the commercial airlines to transport methamphetamine. Barrios and BRIAN DAVIS used drug couriers, who drove from California to locations near Evansville, Indiana after the

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BRIAN DAVIS AND JEROME DAVIS-2

September 11 attacks. On September 27, 2001, DEA initiated the wire surveillance over BRIAN DAVIS' cellular telephone. As a result of the wire surveillance, DEA seized twenty pounds of methamphetamine from the organization on September 30, 2001, ten pounds of methamphetamine on October 12, 2001, and an additional ten pounds of methamphetamine on October 25, 2001. Wilfredo Barrios will be sentenced on July 15, 2003.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Bradley A. Blackington, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Young also imposed 5 years supervised release following JEROME DAVIS' release from imprisonment and 5 years supervised release following BRIAN DAVIS' release from imprisonment. During the period of supervised release, JEROME DAVIS and BRIAN DAVIS must submit to random searches of their persons and residences.

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